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Press Release 05/2016

**PACWIMA FSM FOCAL POINT PARTICIPATES IN STCW AUDIT FOR ADMINISTRATIONS AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS DOMESTIC SHIP SAFETY AUDIT CONDUCTED BY SPC'S TRANSPORT PROGRAMME IN FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA IN MAY 2016**



Ms. Maristella Liwy (facing camera) sharing her experience in attending the IMO/SPC Regional Conference in Tonga in April 2016. *(Picture source – SPC)*

Ms. Maristella Liwy is the Executive Secretary at the FSM National Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure and is one of the focal points for FSM.

FSM Women In Maritime Association (WIMA) has not yet been established but efforts are being put into getting it set up in the near future. In her presentation to the delegates from the Maritime Administration, Ms. Liwy stated “Under the PacWIMA, I strongly suggest that an FSM

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WIMA should be established. Just recently, there were few girls who graduated from FMI. Three of these girls are now working at FSM Department of Justice, within the surveillance division. Few more are graduating this year. I believe that if the FSM WIMA can be established, women seafarers will strongly pursue their dreams, knowing they are being noticed, considered and supported by our respectful Governments as Government is people.”

Ms. Maristella Liwy thanked SPC and PacWIMA to be part of the program for capacity building/visibility of women in maritime and looked forward to the support of its Administration for the establishment of FSM WIMA and related activities to enhance women participation in the maritime sector and the regional work plan for PacWIMA.

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